Happy Valentine's Day! 25c

MIDDLE SCHOOL GOOD TIMES

PAW PAW MIDDLE SCHOOL, PAW PAW, MI

Vol. 19 #3 February 1993

Silber Wins First Place

Jessica Silber placed first in Farm Bureau's America and Me essay contest and her essay proceeds at this point to the state level where it could win her from $500 to $1000 and a dinner with Governor Engler.

Second place went to Regina Ewert and third place was Brian Argo. All three received certificates and will have their pictures in the local newspaper as well as in the yearbook.

Jessica's name will be engraved on the plaque in the trophy case alongside those who have placed first throughout the last fifteen years the middle school has been in the competition.

Other top entrants were Will Moore, Artie Wilcox, Carrie Palasinski, Jayme Russ, Becca Stoner, Sarah Plucinski, and Louis Williams.

WINTER

Winter comes
Strangling the life of the past summer
Covering the leaves that have fallen
From the security of the branches.
Dampness fills the air
Clouds
Your thoughts of warm spring days.
Evergreens fill your nose
With a scent of Christmas
And the last few birds try to fly
South before the first
Snowfall.

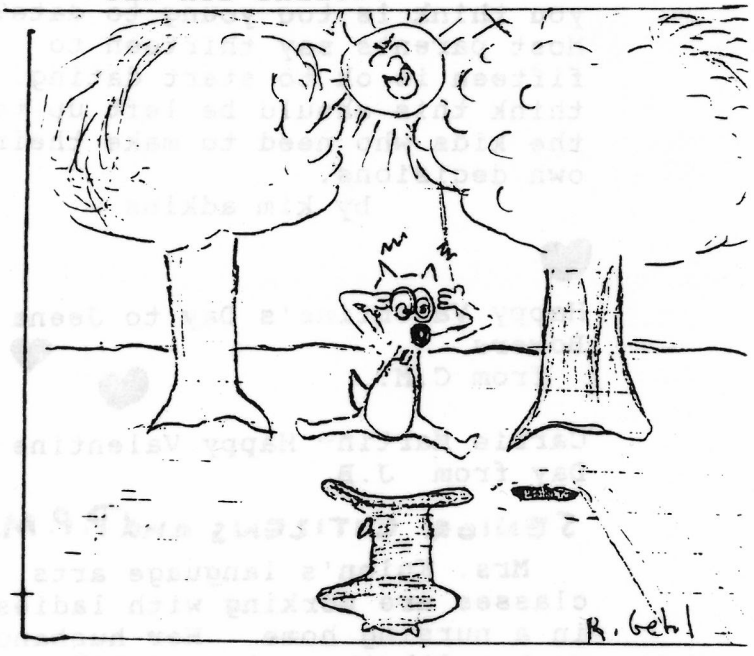
by s. plucinski

Why a Ground Hog? by b. hassler

Ground Hog's Day comes to us supposedly from Germany and England. They believed the ground hog forecast the weather for the next six weeks.

It was said that the ground hog woke from his sleep on February 2. If he saw his shadow, it meant six more weeks of winter. The sun would scare him back to his hole. If he didn't see his shadow, he would come out and forage for food. Spring was really close.

This year, unfortunately, he saw his shadow.



SKIING OFF TO SUCCESS...

Ski Club has had two great ski adventures in its first year as a club. January 15 and January 27 many students traveled to Bittersweet, some skiing for the first time ever.

Mrs. A. Smith and Miss Grabowski deserve thanks for organizing these trips. Thanks too to the chaperones who made it possible.

CONCERTS, DATING, PARENTS etc.

Some parents think that 13 is too young to go to a concert. The biggest feud currently raged over the Bobby Brown concert. Personally my mom wouldn't let me go at all. Everyone is hearing all kinds of stuff about this concert. I think that if a kid wants to go, then let them make the choice. If they know their parents don't want them to go, they will go. Kids don't like to do what their parents want them to do. They should make their own decisions.

Another feud is age to date; my parents say sixteen or nineteen. (Personally my dad would lock me up until I was fifty if he had his way.) Some parents don't care. Some parents do. Of course kids almost always disagree with them. How did do you think is too young to date? Most parents say thirteen to fifteen is ok to start dating. I think this should be left up to the kids who need to make their own decisions.

by kim adkins

Happy Valentine's Day to Jeena Bowers
from C.M.

Carrie Martin- Happy Valentine's Day from J.B.

SENIOR CITIZENS and P.P.M.S.

Mrs. Kolon's language arts classes are working with ladies in a nursing home. Her husband works with these ladies too in South Haven.

We made cards and video tapes for them. We asked what life was like when they were our age. They made a videotape to us, answering our questions.

S.Harrison

Conferences March 25 & 26

Parent-teacher conferences. (NEATO) March 25 and in the early morning of MArch 26, 7:30 -10:00. (an early bird special.)

What to Give a Valentine?

What would you give your Valentine? That was another opinion poll done this issue.

John Clark would " give her roses." Kristi Jack would "give him a sweetheart rose because he's hot.". Emily Sibert would give" a box of chocolates."

Daniel Haire would " give her flowers as would Andy Axe. Michelle Owens would give "candy." Eryyn Rice would give"him a bed of roses." Bonnie Pursley would "give him valentine stickers for his ankle brace."

David Owens would give her "roses." Tammie Schmidt would " give him a red rose and a teddy bear." Jason Babin would " give Margie D. a kiss and a little puppy." Jeremiah Bloink "would give her a rose."

Mr. KAnnegieter would "give a handwritten poem from my heart." Mrs. Beyer would give hime " a second honeymoon to Puerta Vallarta." Katy Rock would give " Darin a Thong." Josh Tessar would "give chocolates and a card."

Chris Lhamon would " give her roses or a ring." Scott Wielinga would "give her flowers." Teresa Garcia would "give a rose that never dies to show how much I care."

Kim Stover would give "silk heart boxers because they are sexier." Molly Kuntz would give "anything his heart desires.

by j. surdy

THE GOOD TIMERS for this issue:
Jenny Kellerman, Brandi Espinosa, Jenny Cutler, Jessica Dent, Jessica Surdy, Molly Kuntz, Kristi Jack, Kim Adkins, Erica Selby, Jenny Yerty, Andy Goodman, Angela Neumeier, Anna Oliva, Amanda Alexander, Jamie Mollitor, Rob Gehl, Brad Hassler, Jeff Rogers, Amanda Byrd, Josh White, Rene Rennhack, Jenny Reits, Jericho Groenland, Brooke Guernsey, Amy Vincent, Lauren Mckenzie, Sarah Plucinski.

Winter Comes

Dirt
Mud, brown
The wind whips at my face.
Sun obscured by clouds
Cold
Remainders of a moment's snowstorm
Litter the ground
Brick
Red, old, weathered by time.
Winter comes.

by J. white

WHY?

Sometimes I wonder
Why me?
To see the birds, the trees, the sky
And hear mother singing a lullaby
To walk and run and dance and play
While I waste the day away
Others try with all their might
To know the difference between day and night
And still others are starving ready to die.
And that's when I wonder
Why?

Why was I chosen?
What did I do?
Why am I special?
And why are you?
Who chose me to live
And chose others to die?
That's what I wonder
And why?

by s. plucinski

Getting to Know the Cafeteria

The cafeteria ladies are Mrs. Terry Fodor, Mrs. Dorothy Chase, and MRs. Allyson Hygdon.

We asked about the heart-shaped nuggets and it turns out the company they buy them from molds them.

It takes about a half-hour for each lunch. Other interesting items we discover follow. Around nine o'clock each day the food distributor from the high school delivers to ourschool and then to the other schools in PawPaw.

The ladies said they enjoy their job, saying it was fun but not easy at times.

If you ever wondered who makes the menus, it is a lady at the high school.

Ever wonder where the food comes from? Here's your answer. The homemade bread is made at the high school and the rest comes from following: Clark, Gordon, Hobby, Blake, and Sysco.

If anyone's wondering what happened to the extra food, here 's your answer.
The government decided we needed a balanced meal and they are not able to give away food anymore.

One thing upsetting middle schoolers is that the high schoo has a snack bar, a pizza bar, a hot lunch bar and others.

That's all for now. Keep eating.

s.plucinski, j, bogema, a. neumeier

Volleyball Starts

Many of the students this year are joining volleyball. Why? That is what this reporter asked three students: Sarah Thomas and Lauren Hentchel said they thought " it would be fun." Another person, who asked not to be named, said that they were bored with everything else.

When asked what they thought of their coach, Mrs. DeGraaf, a few seventh graders didn't like her. Christy Taylor and Beth Tapper though mentioned that she was nice and "there should be more people in the world like her."

Overall, the opinion seems to be that volley ball is a worthwhile sport.

j. yerty

Feb. 19 Dance

The next dance is February 19 at 7:00 in the middle school gym. Don't miss it.

School Uniforms J. mollitor

School uniforms?

If we did have uniforms, studetns wouldn't be judged by whether their families were rich or poor. The school as a whole would look more organized and disciplined. I think it would create a learning atmosphere with no distractions of who was wearing what. Fellow students might make a greater effort to get to know you and not judge you by your clothes...a book by its cover.

Some students might think this would limit a person's show of personality and individuality, but school is a place of learning and not anything else. Others might think wearing the same thing would get boring or depressing, but Idon't think schoolwas meant for entertainment. Another argument mmight be it allows students no control or decision but there's always time for that.

I think a possible solution might be to have a contest where the students design the uniform. Then the teachers or board members would vote on it.

8th Grade Team-Volleys On

Volleyball is off and bouncing. The eighth grade team members are Sara Weaver, Amy Stimac, Lisa White, Lisa Leathers, Lisa Satayut, Christy Vesey, Kari Vesey, Carrie Watts, Channa Robinson, Amber Major, Seanna Sullivan, Brooke Guernsey, Shannon Streich, Katy Rock, Aimee Offord, Karis Consolatti, Mikki Wright, Amanda Byrd, Jessa Bogema, Angela Edwards, Alyssa Munger, Lorrie Robbins, Kim Abshagen, Kim Adkins, Angela Lanter, Angela Neumeier, Jeena Bowers, Molly Kuntz, Kristi Jack, Liz Rumbaugh, HEather Labadie, Erryn Rice, Jasmine Baker, Dannie Drake, and Kristi Jack.

Seventh graders, please get a list of your team to Mrs. Swanson for the next issue. Thanks.

DEAR SAM,

Dear Sam,

I was at the mall one day and found my boyfriend and cousin making out. (I had been on vacation and got back early.) He told me I wasn't supposed to come back early. Now I want to disown them. Is that normal?

Hurt

Dear Hurt,

It is normal to disown them but you won't forever. When they break up and they find someone new, you'll feel much better. In the meantime, keep cool, be yourself and find someone else who won't hurt you that way again.

Dear Sam,

I'm adopted. My parents are getting a divorce and they want me to decide who to live with. My problem is I don't want to choose. Help.

Split Between

Dear Split,

You should pick to live with whoever you would like. Iknow that's not much advice but then again you could ask for visitation or weekly custody.

First Choice

How can this be?
Can't he see
How much he meant to me?

We were inseparable
like the sun and the sky
I really loved this guy.

Can't he see
I thought he knew
That our relationship grew?

Everytime I looked in his eye
I saw the sky.
I really loved this guy.

But the question is
Was I his first choice?

jessa

CLIQUES: What We think

Definitions of cliques: This seemed a worthwhile idea since there seem to be an awful lot of groups and categories these days.

1. Popular- this is based on how many friends you have.

2. Snobs- people who can't see the inside of people and deep down; instead they see only the outside.

3. Preps- people who don't understand other people's feelings, emotions, only their own matter.

4. Nerds- these don't classify as a group. This author doesn't thinkanyone is a nerd but sometimes this is someone who is smart and doesn't care about music, fashion and trends.

5. Wannabe's- people who want to be something they are not... because they can'tsee that inside they are as goodas anyone could want to be.

6. Average- people who can pretty much be friends with who they want..nice and can't really be classified.

7. Wanderers- people who can go to any group and talk to thme and they'll listen. They have friends or a friend in each group.

j.k.

Combat

Do you remember that time
That time you stepped over the line?
That time you tried to kill me
That time you tried to be still me?
Every night I remember that fight.
For some reason I can't get it out of my sight.
When I think about it the tears sting my eyes
Followed by the silent cries.
But it was your own fault.
You are the one who persisted in the onslaught
Since you are the one who was killed in combat
To you I take off my hat.

by Dustin Le[illegible]

Grandparent Stories

One story my grandfather likes to remind me of is how I got him a ticket. Grandpa starts off telling me he was rushing to the hospital. He says the road was clear so he decided to go fifty and a cop stopped him. Grandpa told him the reason and the cop still gave him the ticket. He still blames me. (it was my birth.)

Another grandparent story is how "you used to eat dog food," said one person's grandpa. "Then you would chase after your brothers." (Embarrassing.)

The mot embarrassing one of all is when the one about the photos in the album. They look at a picture and tell a story about you. What a thrill.

If you have some embarrassing stories to share that your parents/grandparents tell to you or to your friends about you, send them to Mrs. Swanson's mailbox in the office.

k. adkins

JOKES Ha Ha Ha!

"I am really glad you could come," said the small boy to the lady. "Now dad can do the trick he said he'd do."

"What might that be?" the lady asked sweetly.

"Well, he said if you came over he'd climb the walls," the boy replied happily.

Several children were gathered in the yard making quite a lot of noise. An elderly man stopped to ask what was going on.

"We're betting," one of the boys replied. "Whoever can tell the biggest lies wins two dollars."

"That's horrible. Why when I was a boy I never even thought of lying."

The boy looked at his friends and said, "Oh darn. Hand him the two dollars. He just won the bet."

OPINIONS, OPINIONS...

What is your opinion? We asked for and got an awful lot of opinions this time...from the serious to the preposterous.

WHAT WAS THE WORST HAIRSTYLE YOU EVER HAD? E.J. McLemore has "never had a bad hairstyle yet." Kelly DeRight's worst was " a perm." Becky Henley is convinced her worst was " when my hari was to my ears." Kevin Tenant hated "his spike."

Heidi Wilhelmi never liked " three braids braided " while Stephanie VanLoon hated having it "crimped." Justin Nelson's least favorite was "a buzz." Catherine O'Keefe didn't like "Short and scruffy" for her hair. Apparently Tom Cogswell had his hair "mohawked and green" when he liked it least. Easy to see why.

Ben Merrill felt he looked worst when he had " a Sinaid O' Conner." Casey Mendenhall didn't like "looking like Punky Brewster." Mrs. Beyer said, "My senior prom- hairdresser gave me some of the stiffest ugliest curls I've ever had." Mrs. Swanson recalls, "wearing greenish-brown, still-damp hair to the senior prom...it's a long story."

Sarah Freeman "let my sister do my hair... she ratted it four inches above my head with a spike down my neck." Katie Story remembers " my hair permed in a bowl hair cut." Jeff Rogers hated " a butch." Josh Stipes' least favorite look was when "I was born and didn't have any hair." Mikki Wright said, "My sister cut it and it was crooked. My mom had to cut it again."

Brandon Root had " a spike and a tail." Brooke Guernsey recalls "In seventh grade at Regis I got a cut in nine minutes and it was flat and uneven." Dannie Drake recalls "5th grade and a bad perm." see Col. 2 for the rest

Alison Hathaway had " the worst hairstyle I ever had was like a lion or peacock." Suzzanne Overacker says, "My mother pulled my hair back and looked like I was bald because there were no bangs."

Keif Ludwig and Hans Terrell say they have never had one.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE POP AND WHY?

This turned out to be a dull set of answers. No one is too sure why they like what they like!

HOW DO THEY GET THE JELLY IN THE DONUT?

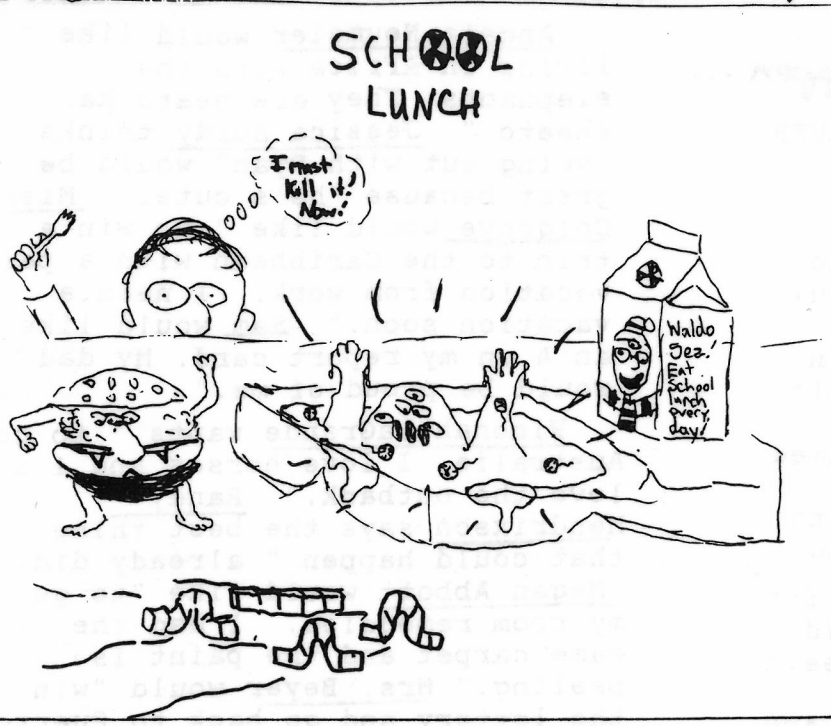
Karis Consolatti thinks "They spoon it in." Angela Edwards says, "They squeeze it through a straw." Ryan Sibert is sure it takes "practice." Amanda Byrd thinks "Purple dragons hollow it out and the sicko donut guy puts the 'stuff' in it." Chris Moore wants to know " Why do you think we care? We just eat it."

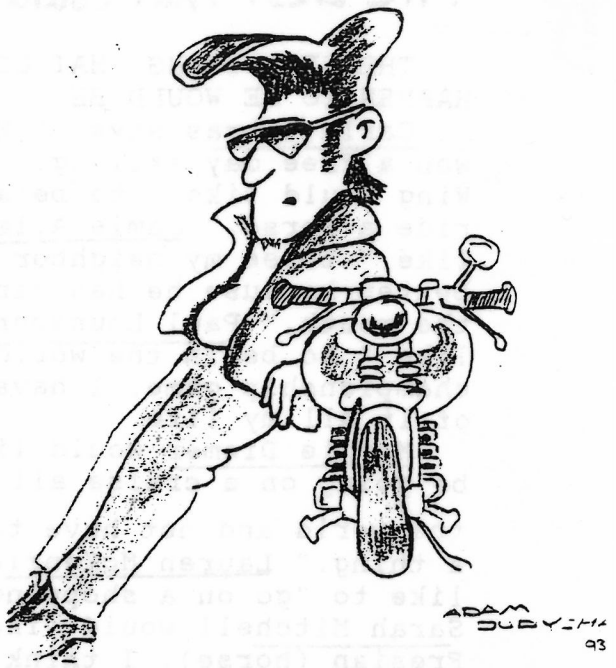
More practically, René Rennhack suggests, " They take a needle and poke it in the donut and voila!" David Summerville thought "they use a squezze bottle."

My Opinion —

People don't realize sexual harrassment goes in everywhere... at home, at school, on buses, at movies, on the streets... everywhere. It's not just guys, it's the girls too. When people think of sexual harrassment, the first thing that comes to their minds is "It must be a guy." It's equal for girls and guys. It's not just students; it's adults too. It's not just in one country but all over the world. I admire those who have come forward to tell their stories. But most don't. I and other fellow students feel that they should teach the younger generation about the major issues in life. I hope you can take into consideration one of the big issues in life.

by k. jack





Josh,
I really love you. I knew you were the one. Love you,
Jessica Breed

Jessica:
You are my only love. I love you.
Josh Stipes

More SAM...

Dear SAm,
I have a problem. I see that a lot of people have been making fun of some people. It makes me mad. What should I do?
Mad

Dear Mad,
Do what you feel you should do. Stick up for them and snow some self-confidence. I'm sure they'll be thankful.

DEar Sam,
See there's this 18 year-old I like. I am only 13. I know he likes me. What should I do?
Confused

Dear Confused,
If you honestly think an 18 year-old could like you or if he does, you should stay away. Find someone new. He is way too old for you. It can't work. (not to your advantage anyhow.)

ELVIS SIGHTED

WANTED: a big hunka hunka burning love... Elvis "Spam" Presley seen in the post office daily is wanted for the following crimes: stealing food at McDonald's, driving stolen taxis, and many other crimes. (like wearing the same clothes for twenty years) Reward is $100,000,000.

Dear Sam,
I'm going with this guy but he never calls me and never talks to me. If I call him, he is always busy. What should I do?
Heartbroken

Dear Heart,
Ask him why he never talks to you. You might just find out he really doesn't like you.

Dear Sam,
I like a person old enough to be my father. I stare at him from afar. What should I do?
Lovey

Dear Lovey,
If he's old enough to be your father than forget about him. Move on. It'S illegal and stupid.

The Best that could Happen...

THE BEST THING THAT COULD EVER HAPPEN TO ME WOULD BE...

Carla Cabras says, " When I won a free day skiiing." Crystal Wing would like " to be able to ride a horse." Jamie Allman would like " tosee my neighbor get better because he has cancer in the mouth." Paul Lounsbury would like " to be in the world cup championship game. I have dreamed of it all my life."

Margie Diemer would like " to be going on a cruise all around the world and not have to pay for a thing." Lauren McKenzie would like to "go on a shopping spree." Sarah Mitchell would like a " Fresian (horse). I think they are so beautiful and friendly and move well."

Mandi Thomasma would like " to take a trip around the world and see different countries and cities." Hanah Terrell would like " having my best friend move back from Bloomingdale. She is like a sister to me." Lucas Mansberger would like "to become an elephant. They look like they get a lot of rest."

Josh TRaughber would like " to be a writer." Amy Stimac would like " to be married, have children and have money because I don'T want to be poor and I love kids."

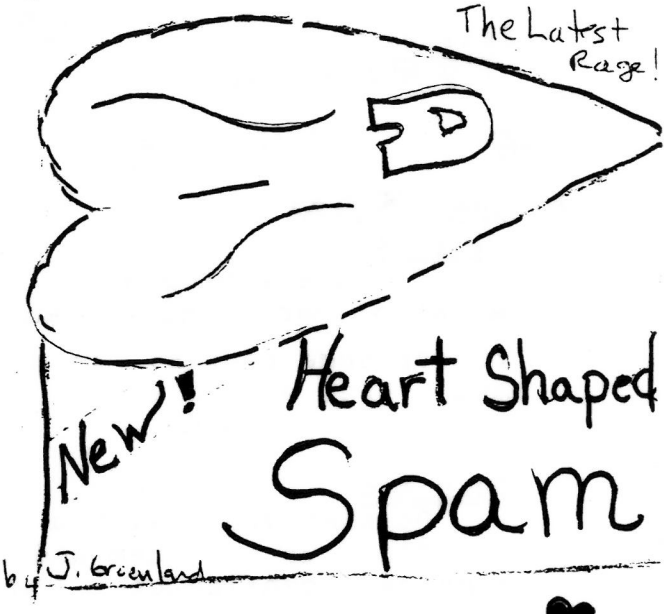
Kellie Wilson would like to "marry Jean Claude Van Damme, be rich and have kids. Jean Claude is so hot." Erryn Rice would like " to get into a good modeling agency. I think it has a promising future."

Emily Wray would like " to talk with a friend of mine who lives in Illinois and is missing. I miss him." Jessica Silber, like many of you, would like " to win the lotteryso I could pay for anything I wanted and I wouldn't have to get a job." Jessica Handley would like " Mike Major asking me out. I really like him and we'd make a good couple."

Angela Neumeier would like " living in AFrica with the elephants. They are neato ka skeeto." Jessica Surdy thinks "going out with Ryan" would be great because "he's cute." Miss Colgrove would like " to win a trip to the Caribbean with a paid vacation from work. I need a vacation soon." Sam would like " an A on my report card. My dad would be proud of me."

Winonah LaGrande wants " to go Australia. I love horses and I'd love the outback." Randy Hendrixson says the best thing that could happen " already did." Megan Abbott would like "to get my room remodeled. I had the same carpet and the paint is peeling." Mrs. Beyer would "win the lottery and go back to Puerto Vallarta."

Carissa Sweet said,"I have no idea but come to me in ten days."



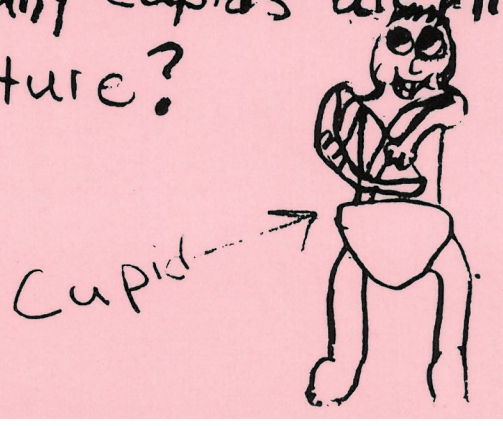
Delusions cloud my vision
But the light of my love
for you
leads me on.

Friends through the never
is most likely all we
can be.

The sun shatters
but still...
your beauty leads
me through the
Darkness.

dedicated to C. Vesey

For Real Valentine's Day fun,
How Many cupids are hidden
this picture?



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(They're really good at this!)

Happy Valentine's Day!